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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- (original) A method for inhibiting cell death, comprising:
 administrating an anion channel-forming peptide to cells under lactacidosis.
- 2. (original) A method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the cell death is necrotic cell death.
- 3. (currently amended) A method as set forth in Claim 1—or 2, wherein the cell death is judged based on nuclear stainability by cell membrane impermeable fluorescent dye propidium iodine.
- 4. (currently amended) A method as set forth in Claim 1 or 2, wherein the cell death is accompanied with significant reduction in mitochondrial dehydrogenase activity.
- 5. (currently amended) A method as set forth in any one of Claims 1 to 4 Claim
- 1, wherein the anion channel-forming peptide is a VacA protein derived from Helicobacter pylori.

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- 6. (currently amended) A method as set forth in any one of Claims 1 to 4 Claim
- 1, wherein the anion channel-forming peptide is a glycine receptor channel variant peptide.
- 7. (original) A cell death inhibitor comprising an anion channel-forming peptide.
- 8. (original) A cell death inhibitor as set forth in Claim 7 inhibiting necrotic cell death.
- 9. (currently amended) A cell death inhibitor as set forth in Claim 7 or 8, wherein inhibition of the necrotic cell death is evaluated according to loss of nuclear stainability by cell membrane impermeable fluorescent dye propidium iodide.
- 10. (currently amended) A cell death inhibitor as set forth in Claim 7 or 8, wherein inhibition of the necrotic cell death is evaluated by prevention of reduction of mitochondrial dehydrogenase activity.
- 11. (currently amended) A cell death inhibitor as set forth in any one of Claims 7 to 10 Claim 7, wherein the anion channel-forming peptide is a VacA protein derived from *Helicobacter pylori*.

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12. (currently amended) A cell death inhibitor as set forth in any one of Claims 7 to 10 Claim 7, wherein the anion channel-forming peptide is a glycine receptor channel variant peptide.

13. (currently amended) A therapeutic drug comprising a cell death inhibitor as set forth in any one of Claims 7 to 12 Claim 7 and being used for treating disease caused by cell death.

14. (original) A therapeutic drug as set forth in Claim 13, used for treating disease caused by glial cell death.

15. (new) A cell death inhibitor as set forth in Claim 11, inhibiting death of glial cells.